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ABSTRACT

These papers examine the sociocultural approach to curriculum design, which provides minority and working class students with the same privileges that middle class students have (instruction that puts their knowledge and experiences at the heart of learning). It presents the theoretical framework for linking students' lives with curriculum and specific strategies from teachers who have done so successfully. The stories show African American, Haitian American, Hispanic American, Native American, and rural white students in contextualized learning as they do reading, writing, mathematics, and science across the grades. All of the classrooms use students' household-based funds of knowledge as resources for school-based funds of knowledge, building bridges in nontraditional ways. The 11 chapters are: (1) "Connecting Students' Cultures to Instruction" (Ann Rosebery, Ellen McIntyre, and Norma Gonzalez); (2) "Connecting Cultural Traditions: Making Comparisons" (Sharon Maher, Georgia Epaloose, and Roland Tharp); (3) "Ring My Bell: Contextualizing Home and School in an African American Community" (Michele L. Foster and Tryphenia B. Peele); (4) "Unearthing the Mathematics of a Classroom Garden" (Leslie H. Kahn and Marta Civil); (5) "The Sound of Drums" (Faith R. Conant, Ann Rosebery, Ruth Warren, and Josiane Hudicourt-Barnes); (6) "Preschool Science: Contextualizing Curriculum with Children's Questions and Family Stories" (Maureen Callanan, Pilar Coto, Ligia Miranda, Anne Striffler, Jim Allen, Cherie Crandall, and Colleen Murphy); (7) "Agric:ltural Field Day: Linking Rural Cultures to School Lessons" (Ellen McIntyre, Ruth Ann Sweazy, and Stacy Greer); (8) "Teaching History: A Cultural Approach for Primary Grade Children" (Ellen McIntyre and JoAnn Archie); (9) "Creating Learning Communities: The 'Build Your Dream House' Unit" (Melanie Ayers, Jose David Fonseca, Rosi Andrade, and Marta Civil); (10) "Creating Links Between Home and School Mathematics Practices" (Rosi Andrade, Caroline Carson, and Norma Gonzalez); and (11) "Seeing, Believing, and Taking Action" (Norma Gonzalez, Ellen McIntyre, and Ann Rosebery). (SM)

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